



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Redlands Couple Charged with Grand Theft

San Bernardino, CA - Friday, December 12, 2008, Investigators from the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Real Estate Fraud Unit, along with Redlands Police, arrested Charles (57) and Brenda Lee (58) Stipe for felony Grand Theft. Real Estate Fraud Unit prosecutors charged them after an extensive criminal investigation. Evidence indicates that the Stipes worked together selling manufactured homes in the Redlands area. They took over \$269,000.00 in cash to purchase lots and homes on behalf of the victim, as part of a business arrangement. The Stipes did not purchase the property as agreed, but instead the Stipes used the \$269,000 dollars given to them for their own benefit and to furnish their own home.

The Stipes were taken into custody early Friday at their apartment in the 93 block of Kansas Street in Redlands. They were arrested without incident and a search warrant was also served on their home and vehicles for evidence relating to the Grand Theft investigation. The Stipes were transported and booked into the Sheriff's West Valley Detention Center for PC 487/ Grand Theft. They are being held in lieu of \$275,000.00 each.

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